



1917 August Primary 1917

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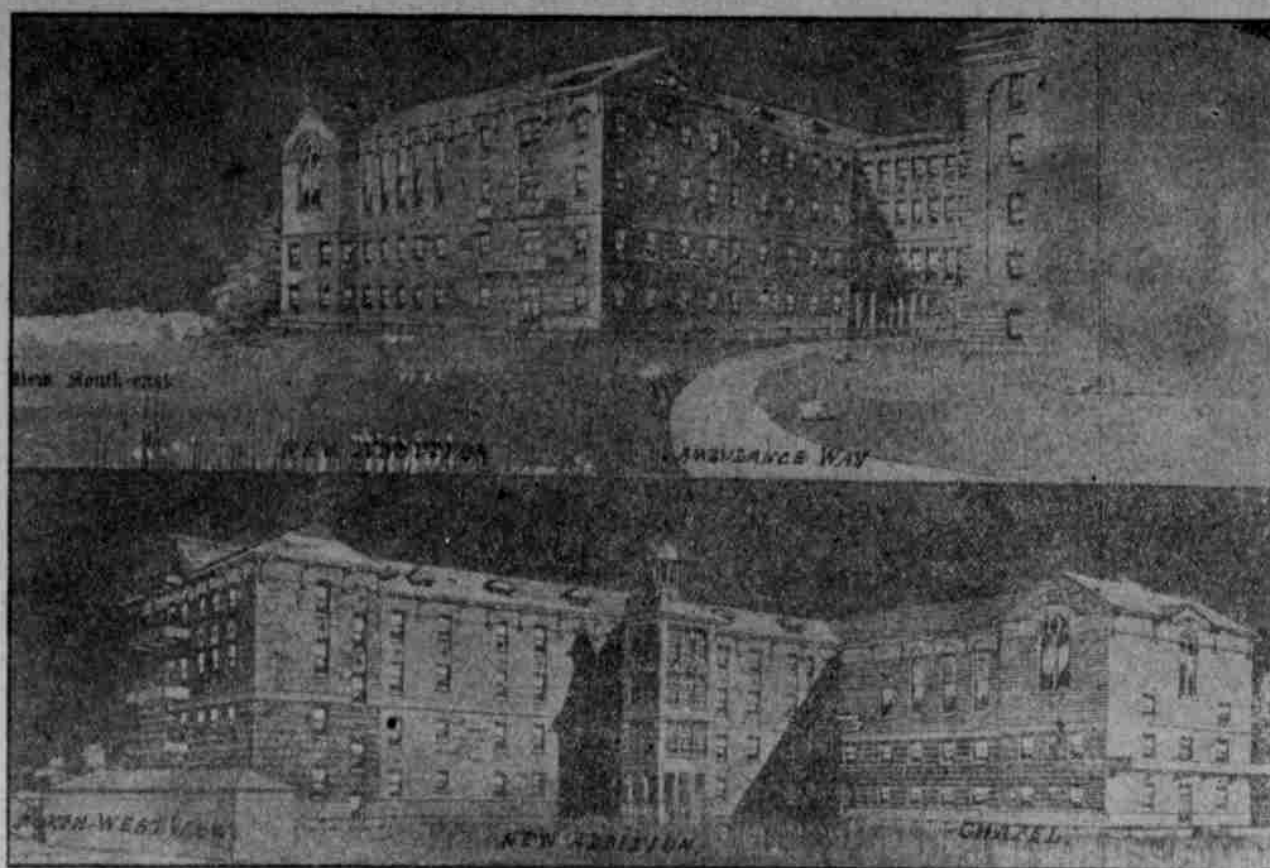
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IMPORTANT

Bigotry Bearing Fruit and Hurting
Progress in Southern
States.Splendid Stand Taken by Atlanta
Constitution in Catholic
Behalf.Bishop Kelley Donned the Gray and
Served the Confederate
Cause.

DAUGHTERS OF CONFEDERACY.

There have been those who have sought to minimize the importance of the anti-Catholic campaigns of Watson and bigots of his type and have questioned the propriety and utility of a Catholic campaign of defense. That they have been quite mistaken in this attitude is brought home quite strikingly in an occurrence of very recent date recorded in the columns of the Atlanta Constitution. We quote the statement, summarizing as it does the main facts of the occurrence:

"Quite a furore has been created in Macon over the action of the local Confederate veterans in refusing to participate in the Memorial day exercises this year if the Daughters of the Confederacy permit Bishop Kelley, of Savannah, to be the speaker of the day. The veterans have sent a letter, signed by sixty of their number, to Mrs. Walter J. Grace, in which they declare Bishop Kelley is a Catholic and not patriotic and that unless the invitation is recalled they will not take part in the exercises this year."

"Mrs. Grace on March 2 issued a statement in which she said that Bishop Kelley delivered the Memorial day address in Atlanta last year and because he is a Confederate veteran and did his part in the struggle back in the sixties the Daughters decided to invite him to speak here on April 26. The Daughters of the Confederacy is a non-sectarian organization, numbering among its members women of all different beliefs and for that reason the religious matter did not enter into question when the invitation was extended to Bishop Kelley."

There are, however, two consoling moments to be considered in this otherwise unfortunate affair: the one is the sane attitude adopted by the Daughters of the Confederacy and the other is the noble stand taken by the foremost newspaper of the South in commenting upon it. It is the Atlanta Constitution, from an editorial of which, written by Clark Howell, the editor, we quote the most trenchant parts.

"In refusing," he writes, "to withdraw their invitation to Bishop Kelley to deliver the Confederate Memorial day address at Macon, as requested by sixty members of the Confederate Veterans Association in that city, solely because the Bishop is a Roman Catholic, the ladies of the Macon Memorial Association are eminently in the right. And their stand evinces a degree of broad-mindedness that is commendable. (Here follows a statement of the affair.) The women, however, stood pat, and by an overwhelming vote refused to recall the invitation to Bishop Kelley. The women were right, and the men were wrong. What better vindication of the position of the Macon D. A. R.'s could be afforded than by harking back to the records of half a century ago, when Bishop Kelley as a young strapping, radiant with patriotism, volunteered in defense of the Confederate cause, donned a gray uniform and from beginning to the end of the war rendered brilliant service to his country? He was a Roman Catholic then, just as he is now. That fact did not disbar him from patriotic service then, nor should it now. The women of Macon showed the instincts of true womanhood and patriotism in their spunky response to the recalcitrant veterans, which reflects infinite credit upon them."

The Atlanta Constitution is to be complimented on this brave and sensible attitude, so unlike that of many contemporaries which pass over in conniving silence the many slurs that are at times cast at Catholic citizenship, all the more so when we know that Tom Watson has, as we are reliably informed by a Southern gentleman, the editor

of all the Georgia newspapers with but few exceptions and that they are afraid to open their mouths in defense of the church and the patriotism shown by the long list of patriots who gave their life in the service of our country.

This unfortunate affair is but another of the many examples which prove that we can be none too vigilant and active in counteracting by a sane propaganda of enlightenment and defense the sinister forces that seek to stigmatize Catholic citizens and make pariahs of those professing the Catholic faith. C. B. of C. V.

TRIBUTE TO SISTERS.

John Wallace better known as "Cap Jack" Crawford, a noted Irish fighter of early frontier days, died last week at his home at Woodriven, L. I. Capt. Crawford wrote a number of plays, stories and poems and was known as the "Poet Scout." He was chief of scouts under Gen. Custer at the time of the Custer massacre, but it is said that he was on his way to Custer's headquarters with dispatches when this event took place. Later he played an active part in the pursuit of Sitting Bull. He was not a Catholic. Several years ago during the A. P. A. movement, Capt. "Jack" paid the following beautiful tribute to our good nuns: "Oh, friends, oh, friends! their is a noble work! How many a veteran of the war, who wore the blue or the gray, can yet recall the soothing touch of a Sister's hand, as he lay upon the pain-tossed couch of a hospital? Can we ever forget their sympathetic eyes, their low, soft-spoken words of encouragement and cheer, when the result of the struggle between life and death yet hung in the balance? Oh, how often, how often have I followed the form of the good Sister Valeria with my sunken eyes, as she moved away from my cot to the cot of another sufferer, and I breathed from the most sacred depths of my faintly beating heart the fervent prayer: 'God bless her! God bless her!' My friends, I am not a Catholic, but I stand ready at any and all times to defend those noble women, even with my life, for I owe that life to them."

May the writer of this noble tribute have a bed in heaven!

CINCINNATI.

The Sixth annual St. Patrick's day dinner of Irish Fellowship Club of Cincinnati will take place this evening at the Hotel Gibson, and the plans formulated are an assurance that it will be the biggest and most successful in the history of that organization. The Irish Fellowship Club now is passing through its sixth year of existence and has a membership of 875, with new members constantly being admitted. Each year the Irish Fellowship Club selects one of its prominent members as its guest of honor at the St. Patrick's day dinner, and the honor this year falls to John P. Brennan, who was the originator and first President of the club. President Richard Crane will be the toastmaster and Gov. Cox will be one of the orators.

The Irish Women's Fellowship Club will celebrate with a banquet at the Business Men's Club, Dr. Nora Crotty will be toastmistress and Miss Mary Agnes McCarthy will respond to the toast, "Ireland and Why We Love Her."

FISHERY DISPUTE.

The Canadian Government has adopted measures that would prevent our fishing fleets from continuing under the American flag and the matter now rests with our Fisheries Bureau. American fishing fleets on both oceans are said to be confronted with going under Canadian registry or forfeiting many privileges at Canadian ports. Seven vessels in the Pacific ocean have already changed to Canadian registry, and the Shipping Board is understood to have received many applications from the owners of other fishing craft in both the Atlantic and Pacific for authority to surrender American registry. Canadian ports, reported to be acting under orders of the Dominion Government, have refused to sell fish, coal, other supplies, and even food to crews of American fishing craft unless the catch were sold in Canada instead of the United States. The Gloucester fleet is reported also to have been harassed by British vessels on the Grand Banks. It is said that the Canadian Government wants the American boats to replace those sent to the war zone for submarine patrol, and in addition needs the catch, which would otherwise go to American ports. Here we have another evidence of England's plan to destroy all rights of the United States upon the high seas.

WONDERFUL

Effort Made by Irish Catholics in
Building Magnificent
Churches.Incomprehensible Monuments of
Stupidity Past Governments
Made Possible.Proof of Attachment of the Irish
People to Ancient
Faith.

WITHOUT HISTORIC PARALLEL.

"Church Building in Ireland" is the subject of a sympathetic and lengthy illustrated article in the Builder. The loss of the ancient Catholic churches to the new Protestant Episcopal church at the time of the Reformation and the "enormous disabilities and disadvantages" under which Catholics suffered during the penal times are pointed out. These laws will, says the Builder, always be regarded as one of the incomprehensible monuments of injustice which the stupidity of past governments made possible. The greatest proof of the attachment of the great mass of the population to their ancient faith is afforded in the fact that the penal laws not only failed to eliminate Catholicism, but did not even impair its strength.

The repeal of the iniquitous legislation referred to brought an opportunity of which Irish Catholics were not slow in availing themselves. It was followed, we are told, by "an era of church building which, taking into consideration the disparity of wealth and population of Great Britain and Ireland, has no parallel in modern history." Then the long-continued effort which resulted in the completion of Armagh Cathedral is cited as typical of the efforts of which many of the new churches are the result. Begun in 1840, it took thirty-three years to erect, whilst its adornment is due to the zeal of Cardinal Logue. Reviewing the wonderful effort made by Irish Catholics in the building of churches, the Builder says:

"The building of Armagh, Queenstown and other of the great churches of Ireland is as remarkable as the completion of St. Peter's at Rome or St. Paul's in London, as the one was made possible by the offerings of half of Christendom and the wealth of medieval Rome, and the other was assisted by the imposition of many dues by the city of London and the funds of the Established Church, while the Cathedrals of Ireland have been chiefly built out of the offerings of the peasantry of Ireland. Armagh Cathedral has cost £250,000 in all up to the present time."

The Builder also says that: "Among other Cathedrals which have been built in Ireland are those of Queenstown, which stands like a sentinel on the fairway of the great Atlantic liners, and on which £250,000 have been expended; Kilmaree, a fine example of Pugin's skill, costing £180,000; and Monaghan, built at a cost of £150,000. Kilkenny, a simple and pleasing Cathedral, cost £60,000, and about the same amount has been expended on the Cathedral at Limerick. Other Cathedrals have been erected in Londonderry, Thurles, Letterkenny, Sligo, Loughrea and Longford, besides a long list of parochial churches in every district of Ireland, the erection of which has been made possible both by gifts of money and offerings in kind, taking the shape of material, cartage, etc."

It is stated that in the diocese of Dublin alone no less than 2751,834 has been spent upon church building during the last fifty years.

MAKING HOME LARGER.

Saturday afternoon the city building department issued a permit for the erection of two additions and a basement to St. Joseph's Orphan Home on Frankfort avenue. This will be a great improvement and will cost about \$41,000, the contract being let to John Toke. The additions will be two-story brick structures, and will be added to the east and west wings of the home. This will make St. Joseph's one of the largest and best orphan asylums in the country.



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